

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 /105 W
----- 073796

R 271108Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 492

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0618

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, BA, KU, MU, QA, SA, TC

SUBJECT : QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER DOWNPLAYS RECENT CON-
SULTATIONS AMONG GULF LEADERS

1. DURING MAY 27 CONVERSATION WITH QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER, SHAYKH SUHAYM BIN HAMAD AL THANI, AMBASSADOR ASKED ABOUT SIGNIFICANCE OF RECENT INTENSIFIED CONSULTATIONS AMONG GULF RULERS, SPECIFICALLY AMIR'S CURRENT TRIP TO MEET WITH KING KHALID AND RECENT VISIT OF KUWAITI PRIMIN TO QATAR. WE REMARKED THAT FREQUENCY OF TOING AND FROING IN RECENT WEEKS GAVE WEIGHT TO PERSISTENT REPORTS THAT GULF SUMMIT, GULF SECURITY PACT AND GULF UNITY WERE SUBJECTS THAT WERE UNDER ACTIVE DISCUSSION.

2. SUHAYM DOWNPLAYED RECENT INTER GULF DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITIES.

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HE SAID IT WAS NORMAL FOR REGIONAL STATES TO CONSULT AND CO-

ORDINATE PERIODICALLY, AND HE PUT AMIR' S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA AND KUWAITI PRIMIN'S VISIT HERE IN THIS CONTEXT. ALTHOUGH SUHAYM IMPLIED THAT SUMMIT AND SECURITY PACT HERE CERTAINLY AMONG TOPICS DISCUSSED IN CURRENT ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS, HE EMPHASIZED THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO DEFINITE ARRANGEMENTS OR AGREEMENTS ON ANY OF THESE ITEMS.

3. COMMENT: SUHAYM'S RESERVED ATTITUDE REFLECTS GOQ'S BEARISHNESS ON MOVING TOO FAST, OR PERHAPS AT ALL, TOWARD SUBSTANTIVE POLITICAL AND SECURITY COOPERATION IN GULF, ALTHOUGH FREQUENT LIP SERVICE PAID TO THESE TOPICS HERE. AMIR, DURING INTERVIEW WITH LEBANESE NEWSMAN LAST WEEK, WAS ASKED ABOUT GULF SECURITY PACT. AMIR NOTED DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY AMONG GULF STATES AND "CALLS BY SOME BROTHERS" FOR GULF SECURITY CONFERENCE. HE THEN CAUTIONED HHAT ANY SUCH MEETING WOULD REQUIRE CAREFUL PREPARATION AND MUST HAVE PRECISE AND LIMITED AGENDA IF IT WERE NOT TO CREATE MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT SOLVED. AMIR SPECIFIED THAT NO RPT NO TIME HAS BEEN FIXED FOR SUCH MEETING, NOR HAS THERE BEEN ANY "OFFICIAL MOVE"FOR CONFERENCE. ALTHOUGH GOQ COULD NOT RPT NOT STAY OUT IF ANY KIND OF GULF RULERS' CONFERENCE CALLED, IT WILL CLEARLY NOT BE IN FOREFRONT OF THOSE PROMOTING SICH A MEETING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DOHA00618
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750184-0906
From: DOHA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750514/aaaaamon.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER DOWNPLAYS RECENT CON- SULTATIONS AMONG GULF LEADERS
TAGS: PFOR, BA, KU, MU, QA, SA, TC, (THANI, SHAYKH SUHAYM IBN HAMAD AL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006